

Inferring Character Traits

Name _____

Date _____ Period _____

Directions: Read each descriptive sentence in the left column. Decide on one character trait word that the description reveals about the character. Write your answer in the column labeled “Inferred Character Traits.” Decide which method(s) of characterization is being used. Write the type of method in the space provided for “Methods of Characterization.”

Methods of Characterization
• Words
• Actions
• Thoughts and feelings
• Appearance
• Comments by other characters
• Direct comments by the narrator

Descriptive Sentence	Inferred Character Traits	Method of Characterization
1. “I hate the idea of having all those people out there watching me,” whispered Violet.	<i>shy</i>	<i>- words - thoughts and feelings</i>
2. Juan got up before dawn and made his way down to the pier. He would be the first fisherman on the water today.		
3. “Dana waters her house plants every single day,” said Joyce.		
4. John looked proudly at the new painting he had done and decided to enter it in the local art contest.		
5. “Maybe I’m just not very bright,” Clovis thought. “I didn’t pass that basket-weaving class . . . again.”		
6. Roosevelt can’t get along well with other people.		
7. Diane looked towards the door, biting her nails and fidgeting with her keys.		
8. Jimmy leaned against the barn. He pulled out the old red bandana from his overall pockets and wiped his sweaty brow.		

9. Dr. Drew organized many blood drives for the Red Cross.		
10. Mary thought about giving up, but she changed her mind and worked through the puzzle one more time.		
11. He believed in using non-violent resistance to bring about change.		
12. Tom sat behind the window and sadly watched the world passing by.		
13. "Get out of my way!" screamed Debbie screamed. "I was here first!"		
14. "Janine never studies," said Mrs. Johnson. "She thinks she already knows the answers."		
15. Old Nellie was the most stubborn mule that had ever found its way to T-Bone Ranch.		
16. Jeff studied his American history notes every day for twenty minutes and got an A on the test.		
17. "Yes, I made an important medical discovery. But I couldn't have done it without my team," said Dr. Jones.		
18. Ruth finished spraying her hair. She smoothed the wrinkles from her pink silk dress and threw the cashmere wrap around her shoulders.		
19. Ron looked at the mass of people at the DMV and thought about how much he hated waiting in lines.		
20. Jessie was the kind of girl who would deliver the newspaper every day, no matter what the weather was like.		